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ANTROSTOMUS CAROLINENSIS.

BY R. MATTHEWS, WICHITA.

Read December 29, 1898.

Sunday, June 12, 1898, I was in the woods along the Arkansas river, three miles south of Wichita. A bird flew from the ground in dense underbrush, and I recognized it as a whippoorwill. The first impulse was to shoot it; but instantly recognizing by its actions that it had eggs or young, I set myself to find the nest. I did not succeed in finding it. I went away and returned in an hour, still finding the bird in the same locality. I made another unsuccessful search for the nest, and left again.

In a couple of hours I came back again, and approaching with great caution, I was delighted to see the bird rise from the identical spot again. This time I searched diligently, but without success. So, as I could not return again, I shot the bird, took it home, skinned and stuffed with cotton, and tried to identify by Goss's "Birds of Kansas." The bird would not identify, but by an inference seemed to be *Antrostomus carolinensis*.

I afterward proved this to be the case by Coues's "Key to the Birds of North America." When I was satisfied I sent the skin to Professor Snow for his opinion, and received this from him: . . . "You are correct as to the identity. . . . It is not recorded that it has been taken in Kansas before."

Unfortunately the cat tore this specimen to pieces so it could not be mounted. There were left the upper half of the head, both wings, one leg and one foot entire, and a few tail and other feathers. These I sent to Professor Snow.

WERE QUAILS NATIVE TO KANSAS?

BY J. R. MEAD, WICHITA.

Read before the Academy December 30, 1898.

Bob-white, *Colinus virginianus*; Texas bob-white, *Colinus virginianus texanus*.

In Colonel Goss's "Birds of Kansas," page 222, he says:

"I have been informed by military men and hunters that bob-whites were occasionally seen on the Cimarron river, south of Fort Dodge, from 1862 to 1866. This was long before our birds, in following up the settlements, had reached the central portion of the state, and it is safe to conclude that the birds found there were of this variety."

"This southwestern race, as a bird of western Kansas, rests on two specimens in the United States National Museum, collected May 27, 1864, by Dr. Elliott Coues, on the Republican river, in the northwestern part of the state."

It would be presumption in me to correct so eminent an authority as Colonel Goss, our lamented friend and brother. Perhaps my opportunities of observation in some instances were better than his.

I went upon the plains of western Kansas in 1859, and lived along with nature as it came from the hand of the Creator for ten years; and among other things I found quail, "bob-whites," the same as I had killed in hundreds in Iowa and Illinois, but smaller, along the timbered streams where thickets afforded protection. They were not numerous; a covey here and there. Half a dozen coveys might be seen in a day's tramp along the Saline or Smoky Hill or their branches.